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N O R T H V I E T N A M

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[Text] Hanoi--The Hanoi press today made public an order of the President of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam promulgating the decree on punishment for counter-revolutionary crimes.

The decree stipulates that counterrevolutionary crimes are crimes of opposing the fatherland, opposing the people's democratic power, sabotaging socialist transformation and construction, undermining national defense, and undermining the struggle against U.S. aggression for national salvation which is aimed at defending the north, liberating the south, and reunifying the country.

The decree lists the following 15 counterrevolutionary crimes:

- 1--The crime of treason to the fatherland;
- 2--The crime of plotting to overthrow the people's democratic power;
- 3--The crime of espionage;
- 4--The crime of intruding into the territory and harming the security of the DRV;
- 5--The crime of armed rebellion to oppose or undermine the people's democratic power and the peoples armed forces;
- 6--The crime of banditry in remote or coastal areas, for counterrevolutionary purposes;
- 7--The crime of defecting to the enemy or fleeing to foreign countries, for counterrevolutionary purposes;
- 8--The crime of murdering, beating, injuring, or kidnaping other people or threatening to kill them for counterrevolutionary purposes;
- 9--The crime of sabotage of all kinds, for counterrevolutionary purposes;
- 10--The crime of undermining the solidarity bloc of the Vietnamese people;
- 11--The crime of opposing or sabotaging the carrying out of state policies and laws, for counterrevolutionary purposes;
- 12--The crime of disrupting public order and security, for counterrevolutionary purpose;
- 13--The crime of making counterrevolutionary propaganda;
- 14--The crime of attacking jails, kidnaping prisoners, organizing escapes from jails or evading imprisonments, for counterrevolutionary purposes; and
- 15--The crime of harboring counterrevolutionary elements.

Those guilty of the above-mentioned crimes are liable to prison terms ranging from

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With regard to the principle governing the punishment of counterrevolutionaries, the decree provides for severe punishment of those who stubbornly oppose the revolution, leniency toward those who are forced, enticed or misled and those who sincerely show repentance, and commutation or absolution for those who have redeemed their crimes with meritorious acts.

Commenting on the promulgation of the decree, the Hanoi daily NHAN DAN today said: In the light of practical experiences, the decree has codified and perfected the previous regulations concerning the repression of counterrevolution in the DRV with the aim of meeting the immediate revolutionary tasks.

The paper added: The promulgation of the decree for punishment of counterrevolutionary crimes shows the Vietnamese people's determination to continue building socialism in the north, defending the base of the revolution in the whole of the country, foiling the U.S. war of destruction, consolidating the great rear, and wholeheartedly and unreservedly supporting the people in South Vietnam in their fight to defeat the U.S. aggressors and their flunkys, with a view to the peaceful reunification of the country.

NHAN DAN LAUDS LAOTIAN PLA GAINS OVER U.S.

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[Text] Hanoi--The great victories obtained by the Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces and people in 1967 and early this year in repulsing the enemy's nibbling attacks against the liberated areas were warmly hailed by the Hanoi daily NHAN DAN in a commentary today.

The paper said: As of late the U.S. imperialists have feverishly stepped up their special war in Laos. The puppet army repeatedly attacked the Laotian Patriotic Forces. U.S. planes, including B-52's, continued their savage raids on the liberated areas, especially in central and lower Laos. The United States and its lackeys have also smuggled large numbers of bandits, commandos, and spies into the liberated areas for harassing activities.

On the other hand, they have stepped up the campaign of slander against the Laotian Patriotic Front and the DRV in an effort to conceal the aggressive acts of the United States. In a word, they are stubbornly pursuing their bankrupted policy of strength, plotting to invade the liberated zone controlled by the Laotian Patriotic Front, and extend their aggressive war to the whole of Indochina.

However, the paper went on, the Laotian patriotic forces and people have shattered all the nibbling attacks of the enemy, wiped out many bandit and commando bases, and recovered many liberated areas, including Nam Bac, illegally held by the enemy since the signing of the 1962 Geneva agreements on Laos. Punishing the United States and its flunkys, the Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces have fiercely attacked the enemy's headquarters, mobile regiments, airfields, artillery sites, and storage complexes, inflicting on them heavy losses in war means.

According to a communique of the Supreme Command of the Laotian People's Liberation Army, in 1967 the Laotian Patriotic Armed Forces and people put out of action 16,000 enemy, shot down or destroyed on the ground 287 U.S. aircraft, and captured over 3,300 guns of various kinds, including 118 cannons and 74 mortars, 178 radio sets, and quantities of ammunition and other military equipment.